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**From:** Bryan, David  
**Sent:** Wed 1/13/2016 3:51:16 PM  
**Subject:** OPA Morning Clips (including State of the Union section) - 1/13/16

## **State of the Union**

**White House (+video) - Here's what the President said - 1/12/16** - He wasn't focused on our past -- he was focused on our future. He spoke about how America's unique strengths as a nation give us everything we need to build a better future for generations to come. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sotu>

**White House (transcript) - Remarks of President Barack Obama – State of the Union Address As Delivered** - The White House is once again making the full text of the State of the Union widely available online. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/01/12/remarks-president-barack-obama-%E2%80%93-prepared-delivery-state-union-address>

**NBC News (+videos) - Haley Faces Conservative Backlash After SOTU Response - 1/12/16** - South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley impressed some Democrats and moderate Republicans with her Republican response to the State of the Union Tuesday night - but there's already backlash brewing on the conservative right. <http://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/haley-faces-conservative-backlash-after-gop-response-obama-n495466>

**Des Moines Register - In speech, Obama nods to Iowa campaigns, energy - 1/13/16** - President Barack Obama's final State of the Union speech Tuesday night gave Iowans plenty to talk about. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/2016/01/13/speech-obama-nods-iowa-campaigns-energy/78695454/>

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Did Obama's State of Union have the right tone to open his final year in office? - 1/13/16** - President Obama's "morning in America" theme in his State of the Union message Tuesday struck fellow Democrats as the right tone for a nation another year removed from a Great Recession. [http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/gateway-to-dc/did-obama-s-state-of-union-have-the-right-tone/article\\_716c7f2a-6d64-5cb5-984c-add7daed8a8.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/gateway-to-dc/did-obama-s-state-of-union-have-the-right-tone/article_716c7f2a-6d64-5cb5-984c-add7daed8a8.html)

**Associated Press - Obama summons Americans to compromise and change - 1/13/16** - With Americans soon to begin choosing his successor, President Barack Obama is casting his seven divisive years as a time of positive change, implicitly asking voters to replace him with a Democrat who would continue his hard-won policies on health care, climate change and Iran. <http://www.kansascity.com/news/government-politics/article54362495.html>

**Rolling Stone - 11 Fights Obama Picked During His Last State of the Union** - 1/13/16 - The speech was "non-traditional" only in the sense that instead of listing his legislative priorities and the policies he would use to achieve them, Obama delivered a pointed rebuttal to the arguments Republican presidential candidates have deployed against him. <http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/11-fights-obama-picked-during-his-last-state-of-the-union-20160113>

**Washington Post - Fact checking the 2016 State of the Union address** - 1/12/16 - A State of the Union address is often difficult to fact-check, no matter who is president. The speech is a product of many hands and is carefully vetted, so major errors of fact are relatively rare. But State of the Union addresses often are very political speeches, an argument for the president's policies, so context is sometimes missing. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2016/01/12/fact-checking-the-2016-state-of-the-union-address/>

**CNN - State of the Union: Obama's complicated victory lap** - 1/13/16 - 9 commentators weigh in on President Obama's final State of the Union address, an upbeat speech aimed at legacy building. <http://www.cnn.com/2016/01/13/opinions/opinion-state-of-the-union-roundup/>

**Phoenix (Ariz.) Desert Sun - Obama on climate change: US needs to speed energy shift** - 1/13/16 - In his final State of the Union address, President Obama touted his administration's efforts on climate change and called for the nation to accelerate the shift from fossil fuels to clean energy. <http://www.desertsun.com/story/news/2016/01/13/obama-energy-climate/78715452/>

## Other Clips

**Radio Iowa - Branstad to tout Iowa's green energy portfolio** - 1/12/16 - Republican Governor Terry Branstad will brag about the state's diversified energy portfolio today during his annual "Condition of the State" message to the legislature. Branstad previewed his message for Radio Iowa during an interview in his statehouse office. <http://www.radioiowa.com/2016/01/12/branstad-to-tout-iowas-green-energy-portfolio/>

**Waste DIVE - Residents frustrated by EPA's isolation barrier plan for West Lake Landfill** - 1/11/16 - Despite plans to build an underground barrier between Bridgeton Landfill and West Lake Landfill, residents have reported to be frustrated and claim the fire-prevention efforts are not enough. <http://www.wastedive.com/news/update-residents-frustrated-by-epas-isolation-barrier-plan-for-west-lake/411451/>

**Midwest Energy News - Iowa regulators again deny transmission developer's request to split approval process** - 1/12/16 - The future of a major wind energy transmission project is again uncertain after Iowa regulators on Monday afternoon rejected the developer's third request that it change the process for granting project approval. <http://midwestenergynews.com/2016/01/12/iowa-regulators-again-deny-transmission-developers-request-to-split-approval-process/>

**Omaha World-Herald (opinion) - Paul Ryan: Water rules show EPA's overreach** - 1/13/16 - Water is the foundation of life and a propeller of economic growth. Congress will continue to make sure that people who depend upon this indispensable resource are not imperiled by an overzealous federal bureaucracy. When the president visits to offer his ideas, remember what he's taking away from Nebraskans. [http://www.omaha.com/opinion/paul-ryan-water-rules-show-epa-s-overreach/article\\_79487f96-cca1-5afa-a194-4d63a398c2aa.html](http://www.omaha.com/opinion/paul-ryan-water-rules-show-epa-s-overreach/article_79487f96-cca1-5afa-a194-4d63a398c2aa.html)

**Sioux City (Iowa) Journal - Judge seeks Iowa Supreme Court input in water lawsuit** - 1/13/16 - A federal judge has ordered that questions of state law raised by a Des Moines water utility's lawsuit against three Northwest Iowa counties be answered by the Iowa Supreme Court. [http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/judge-seeks-iowa-supreme-court-input-in-water-lawsuit/article\\_67939436-ccfa-5402-93a1-1e440989d923.html](http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/judge-seeks-iowa-supreme-court-input-in-water-lawsuit/article_67939436-ccfa-5402-93a1-1e440989d923.html)

**Des Moines Register (opinion) - Glickman: Elevate food and agriculture as national priority** - 1/12/16 - Presidential leadership is critical as farmers and ranchers face tremendous challenges associated with market volatility, natural disasters and pathogens. The right policies can directly improve the health of America's farms, families, economy and the environment. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/columnists/caucus/2016/01/12/elevate-food-and-agriculture-national-priority/78680662/>

**Ethanol Producer Magazine - RFA: Most vehicles sold in 2015 approved by automakers for E15** - 1/11/16 - Last year automakers sold a record 17.47 million vehicles in the United States, with an overwhelming majority explicitly approved by the manufacturer to use E15 (a fuel blend of 15 percent ethanol and 85 percent gasoline), according to statistics from Autodata and an analysis by the Renewable Fuels Association. <http://www.ethanolproducer.com/articles/12929/rfa-most-vehicles-sold-in-2015-approved-by-automakers-for-e15>

**Associated Press - House approves bill to block stream-protection rule for coal** - 1/12/16 - The Republican-controlled House approved a bill Tuesday blocking new Obama administration regulations designed to reduce the environmental impact of coal mining on the nation's streams. <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/27c4bc2171dd499c97d92b457fb06b2c/house-approves-bill-block-stream-protection-rule-coal>

**Genetic Literacy Project - EPA's assessment of neonics in citrus 'misleading,' threatens citrus industry** - 1/12/16 - The premise that neonicotinoids are a major contributor to the decline in bee

populations or colony collapse is false. The National Academy of Sciences states there are several causes. <https://www.geneticliteracyproject.org/2016/01/12/305767/>

**The Hill - Volkswagen CEO: 'We didn't lie' to US about auto emissions** - 1/12/16 - Volkswagen CEO Matthias Muller says his company "didn't lie" to federal regulators about its efforts to circumvent federal air pollution emission standards. <http://thehill.com/policy/transportation/265537-volkswagen-ceo-we-didnt-lie-about-auto-emissions>

**The Hill - Panel approves nuclear energy research bill** - 1/12/16 - A House committee approved a bipartisan bill Tuesday promoting research and development funding for nuclear energy in the United States. The bill directs the Department of Energy to prioritize nuclear energy research that utilizes private sector funding. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/265571-committee-signs-off-on-nuclear-energy-research-bill>

**Care2 - The EPA Is Looking Pretty Ineffective Right Now** - 1/11/15 - While Republicans have continuously threatened to shut down the Environmental Protection Agency, it's liberals and environmentalists who should really be complaining about the EPA. This week alone, two EPA-related stories show how useless the program has become. <http://www.care2.com/causes/the-epa-is-looking-pretty-ineffective-right-now.html>

**The Progressive Pulse (blog) - EPA's weak response to environmental racism complaints in focus at Friday public hearing in RTP** - 1/12/16 - Though polluters and their apologists on the Right love to bash the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a bastion of leftists running roughshod over innocent businesses, the truth is quite frequently the opposite. <http://pulse.ncpolicywatch.org/2016/01/12/epas-weak-response-to-environmental-racism-complaints-in-focus-at-friday-public-hearing-in-rtp/>

**American Rivers (blog) - Polluters Attempt Yet Another Attack On Clean Water Rule** - 1/12/16 - Congress has launched at least fourteen legislative attacks on the Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps' Clean Water Rule since it was proposed in April of 2014 – this week marks one more. <http://www.americanrivers.org/blog/polluters-attempt-yet-another-attack-on-clean-water-rule/>